

Appln. No. 10/089,272
Amendment dated January 28, 2004
Reply to Office Action of November 3, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1, 2, and 4-26 and add new claims 37-44 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Cancelled).

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

5 Claim 3 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 1,
wherein the torque transmitting means comprises a torque
transmitting nut with an outer peripheral surface thereof
abuttingly received in the inner bore of the movable collar to
such an extent that rotation thereof about an axis thereof is
10 substantially restricted, and a torque transmitting nut latch
comprising a cavity, a cross section of which is similar to the
torque transmitting nut.

Claims 4-26 (Cancelled).

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Claim 27 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 3, wherein the special thread ridges (422) comprise a thin layer of a special nylon resin formed on a common thread ridge (421).

Claim 28 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 3, wherein the special thread ridges (422) comprise a common thread ridge formed of an elastic body. 5

Claim 29 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 3, wherein the special thread ridges (422) are not provided and a part of thread ridges of a second thread (22) of the movable collar (20) or of a thread (31) of a torque transmitting nut (30) 5 comprises thread ridges obtained by subjecting common thread ridges to compressive deformation in a diametrical direction.

Claim 30 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 3, wherein the special thread ridges (422) are not provided and a part of thread ridges of a second thread (22) of the movable collar (20) or of a thread (31) of a torque transmitting nut (30) 5 has a greater pitch (P2) than a pitch (P1) of a common thread

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ridge or a less pitch (P3) than the pitch (P1) of the common thread ridge.

Claim 31 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 3, wherein the special thread ridges (422) are not provided and thread ridges of a second thread (22) of the movable collar (20) or of a thread (31) of a torque transmitting nut (30) is formed
5 thereon with a thin layer of a special nylon resin.

Claim 32 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 3, wherein the special thread ridges (422) are not provided and a part of thread ridges of a second thread (22) of the movable collar or of a thread (31) of a torque transmitting nut (30)
5 comprises common thread ridges formed of an elastic body.

Claim 33 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 3, wherein the special thread ridges (422) of the bolt (40) comprise thread ridges obtained by subjecting common thread ridges to compressive deformation in a diametrical direction, and said
5 special thread ridges are additionally formed in either of the second thread (14) of the nut or the first thread (21) of the movable collar within a range over which they can be

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threaded each other at the time of completion of clamping.

Claim 34 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 3,
wherein the special thread ridges (422) of the bolt (40) have a
greater pitch (P2) than a pitch (P1) of a common thread ridge or
a less pitch (P3) than the pitch (P1) of the common thread ridge,
5 and said special thread ridges are additionally formed in either
of the second thread (14) of the nut or the first thread (21) of
the movable collar within a range over which they can be threaded
each other at the time of completion of clamping.

Claim 35 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 3,
wherein the special thread ridges (422) comprise a thin layer of
a special nylon resin formed on a common thread ridge (421), and
said special thread ridges are additionally formed in either of
5 the second thread (14) of the nut or the first thread (21) of the
movable collar within a range over which they can be threaded
each other at the time of completion of clamping.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn). The fastener according to claim 3,
wherein the special thread ridges (422) comprise a common thread
ridge formed of an elastic body, and said special thread ridges
are additionally formed in either of the second thread (14) of

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- 5 the nut or the first thread (21) of the movable collar within a range over which they can be threaded each other at the time of completion of clamping.

Claim 37 (New). A fastener comprising a bolt, a nut, and a movable collar,

- wherein the bolt comprises a bolt head and a bolt shank, the bolt shank extending from the bolt head and having external
5 threads thereon,

- wherein the nut comprises a first nut engaging portion for engagement with the external threads of the bolt shank, and a second nut engaging portion for engagement with the movable collar, the second nut engaging portion being integrally formed
10 with the first nut engaging portion,

wherein the nut is capable of being threaded onto the bolt through the first nut engaging portion,

- wherein the movable collar comprises a first collar engaging portion for engagement with the external threads of the bolt
15 shank, and a second collar engaging portion for engagement with the second nut engaging portion of the nut,

wherein the movable collar is capable of being threaded onto the bolt through the first collar engaging portion and is

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capable of being threaded into the nut through the second collar
20 engaging portion and the second nut engaging portion,

wherein the second collar engaging portion comprises an
external thread forming portion formed with an external thread of
an opposite hand with respect to the external thread formed on
the bolt shank,

25 wherein the nut comprises an extended cylindrical-shaped
portion extended in an axial direction and having an extended
outer-peripheral surface and an extended inner-peripheral
surface, the extended cylindrical-shaped portion comprising a
cavity defined by the extended inner-peripheral surface, the
30 extended inner-peripheral surface comprising an internal thread
forming portion formed with an internal thread being capable of
threading onto the external thread formed on the second collar
engaging portion,

wherein the movable collar is receivable in the cavity when
35 it is threaded and inserted into the nut, and

wherein, with the movable collar being received in the
cavity, when the second nut engaging portion of the nut is
inserted through an opening formed in one of two members formed
with openings, and the bolt is threaded into the movable collar
40 through the opening formed in the other of the two members and
then torque is applied to the bolt head, the movable collar is

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extended toward the other of the two members from the cavity and
the nut is threaded onto the bolt through the first nut engaging
portion, whereby the one of the two members is latched on the nut
45 and the other of the two members is latched on the movable
collar, so that the two members are fastened by the bolt head,
the nut, and the movable collar.

Claim 38 (New). The fastener according to claim 37, wherein
the bolt shank comprises a small-diameter portion having a
diameter smaller than the diameter of the external threads.

Claim 39 (New). The fastener according to claim 37, wherein
the external thread of the bolt shank comprises thread ridges,
engagement of which with the first collar engaging portion is
cancelled by torque of at least a predetermined value.

Claim 40 (New). The fastener according to claim 37, wherein
the first collar engaging portion comprises an internal thread
capable of threading onto the external threads of the bolt shank.

Claim 41 (New). The fastener according to claim 37, wherein
the external thread of the bolt shank has a thread ridge shape

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obtained by radially compressing crests of thread ridges of the external thread.

Claim 42 (New). The fastener according to claim 37, wherein thread ridges of the external thread of the bolt shank have a greater pitch than a pitch of thread ridges of the external thread.

Claim 43 (New). The fastener according to claim 37, wherein the external thread of the bolt shank is formed with the same thread ridges as those of the external thread and a thin layer of a special nylon resin is formed on the thread ridges.

Claim 44 (New). The fastener according to claim 37, wherein the external thread comprises thread ridges formed of an elastic body.